

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-33. (canceled)

34. **(currently amended)** A part for a motor vehicle, which part is adapted to house and transport a fuel comprising hydrocarbons, which part comprises:

a portion comprising ~~plastic or~~ rubber, which portion is permeable to hydrocarbons emitted from said fuel; and

a polytetrafluoroethylene coating directly bonded to a surface of said ~~the portion of plastic or~~ rubber, which coating is adapted to be disposed between the surface of said ~~the portion of plastic or~~ rubber and said fuel; [[,]]

wherein

said coating has a thickness of [[up to]] around a few tens of microns; and ~~wherein~~

said coating is sufficient to reduce the transmission of said emitted hydrocarbons through said coated portion of said part to not more than 2 g/24 hours.

35-36. (canceled)

37. **(currently amended)** The part of Claim 34, wherein said portion ~~comprising plastic or rubber~~ is a pipe, and said polytetrafluoroethylene coating has a thickness of 10 to 35µm.

38. **(currently amended)** A part for a motor vehicle, which part is adapted to be in

contact with a fuel comprising hydrocarbons, which part comprises:

a portion comprising plastic or rubber, which portion is permeable to hydrocarbons emitted from said fuel; and

a polytetrafluoroethylene coating bonded to a surface of the portion of plastic or rubber, which coating is adapted to be disposed between the surface of the portion of plastic or rubber and said fuel;

wherein

said coating has a thickness of around a few tens of microns;

said coating is sufficient to reduce the transmission of said emitted hydrocarbons through said coated portion of said part to not more than 2 g/24 hours; and

The part of Claim 34, wherein said portion comprising plastic or rubber is either an O-ring having an outer perimeter and an inner perimeter or a valve membrane which comprises a rubber elastomer sheet and on which said coating is disposed.

39. **(currently amended)** The part of Claim 38, wherein said portion comprising plastic or rubber is the O-ring which has

an outer perimeter and an inner perimeter; and

a circumferential groove extending along the outer perimeter.

40. (previously presented) The part of Claim 39, wherein the polytetrafluoroethylene coating is disposed on an entire exposed surface of said O-ring except in a region of said circumferential groove.

41. **(currently amended)** The part of Claim 34, wherein said rubber portion comprises nitrile PVC.

42. **(currently amended)** The part of Claim ~~[[34]]~~ 38, wherein said portion comprising

plastic or rubber is ~~[[a]] the valve membrane comprising a rubber elastomer sheet, and said coating is disposed on said valve membrane.~~

43. *(canceled)*

44. **(currently amended)** A method of reducing emission of hydrocarbons through a part of a motor vehicle, the part comprising a portion comprising plastic or rubber, which portion is adapted to be in contact with a fuel comprising said hydrocarbons and is permeable to the hydrocarbons emitted from said fuel, said method comprising:

depositing a polytetrafluoroethylene coating on a surface of said portion comprising plastic or rubber, which surface is adapted to be in contact with said hydrocarbons, said coating having a thickness of around a few tens of microns, wherein said coating is sufficient to reduce hydrocarbon emission through said coated portion of said part to not more than 2g/24 hours;

~~The method of Claim 43,~~ wherein said depositing comprises spraying a liquid polytetrafluoroethylene onto said portion of said part ~~comprising plastic or rubber.~~

45. **(currently amended)** A method of reducing emission of hydrocarbons through a part of a motor vehicle, the part comprising a portion comprising plastic or rubber, which portion is adapted to be in contact with a fuel comprising said hydrocarbons and is permeable to the hydrocarbons emitted from said fuel, said method comprising:

depositing a polytetrafluoroethylene coating on a surface of said portion comprising plastic or rubber, which surface is adapted to be in contact with said hydrocarbons, said coating having a thickness of around a few tens of microns, wherein said coating is sufficient to reduce hydrocarbon emission through said coated portion of said part to not more than 2g/24 hours;

~~The method of Claim 43,~~ wherein said depositing comprises depositing a composition comprising particles of polytetrafluoroethylene, at least one solvent and a bonding agent onto said portion of said part ~~comprising plastic or rubber.~~

46. (previously presented) The method of Claim 45, wherein said composition further comprises a pigment in an amount sufficient to color the polytetrafluoroethylene coating.

47. **(currently amended)** A method of reducing emission of hydrocarbons through a part of a motor vehicle, the part comprising a portion comprising plastic or rubber, which portion is adapted to be in contact with a fuel comprising said hydrocarbons and is permeable to the hydrocarbons emitted from said fuel, said method comprising:

depositing a polytetrafluoroethylene coating on a surface of said portion comprising plastic or rubber, which surface is adapted to be in contact with said hydrocarbons, said coating having a thickness of around a few tens of microns, wherein said coating is sufficient to reduce hydrocarbon emission through said coated portion of said part to not more than 2g/24 hours; and

~~The method of Claim 43, which comprises before the step of depositing said coating, molding said portion of said part comprising plastic or rubber.~~

48. **(currently amended)** The method of Claim ~~[[43]]~~ 47, wherein said polytetrafluoroethylene coating has a ~~forms a layer~~ thickness of 10 to 35 μ m.

49. **(currently amended)** The method of Claim ~~[[43]]~~ 47, wherein the portion of said ~~part comprising plastic or rubber~~ is made from a rubber elastomer.

50. (previously presented) The method of Claim 45, which further comprises after said depositing, removing said solvent from said composition while on the surface of said portion, and baking the coating at a temperature sufficient for said particles of polytetrafluoroethylene to agglomerate together.

51. (previously presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein said removing comprises

evaporating said solvent at about 60°C, and said baking is effected at about 150°C.

52. (previously presented) The method of Claim 51, wherein the portion of rubber or plastic has a softening point of higher than 180°C.

53. **(currently amended)** A motor vehicle, comprising a fuel system comprising a plurality of parts, said plurality of parts being adapted to contain a fuel comprising hydrocarbons for said motor vehicle, wherein:

at least one of said plurality of parts is permeable to vaporous hydrocarbons contained in said fuel, and has at least one surface exposed to hydrocarbon vapors; ~~and wherein~~

said at least one of ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of parts having a portion comprising rubber or plastic has a polytetrafluoroethylene coating on a surface of said portion in contact with said hydrocarbons; ~~[[,]] and wherein~~

said coating has a thickness of ~~up to a few tens of~~ from 10 to less than 25 microns, ~~[[and]]~~ which is sufficient to reduce the emission of said hydrocarbons through said coated portion of said part to not more than 2g/24 hours.

54. **(currently amended)** The motor vehicle of Claim 53, wherein said ~~at least one of~~ said plurality of parts comprises a portion is made of plastic.

55. **(currently amended)** The motor vehicle of Claim 54, wherein said ~~at least one of~~ said plurality of parts comprises a portion is made of rubber, which is an elastomer.

56. **(new)** The part of Claim 34, wherein said polytetrafluoroethylene coating has a thickness of from 10 to less than 25 microns.

57. **(new)** The part of Claim 38, wherein said polytetrafluoroethylene coating has a

thickness of from 10 to 35 microns.

58. **(new)** The method of Claim 44, wherein said polytetrafluoroethylene coating has a thickness of from 10 to 35 microns.

59. **(new)** The method of Claim 45, wherein said polytetrafluoroethylene coating has a thickness of from 10 to 35 microns.

60. **(new)** The motor vehicle of Claim 53, wherein said at least one of said plurality of parts further comprises a bonding agent bonding said coating to the surface of said portion.

61. **(new)** A part for a motor vehicle, which part is a pipe adapted to house and transport a fuel comprising hydrocarbons, said pipe comprising:

a portion comprising plastic or rubber, which portion is permeable to hydrocarbons emitted from said fuel; and

a polytetrafluoroethylene coating deposited on the external surface of the portion of said pipe;

wherein said coating is sufficient to reduce the transmission of said emitted hydrocarbons through said coated portion of said pipe to not more than 2 g/24 hours.

62. **(new)** The part of Claim 61, wherein said coating has a thickness of around a few tens of microns.